

STATE GOVERNMENT NEWS

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GOVERNORS' CONFERENCE

The Fifty-first Annual Meeting of the Governors' Conference was held from August 2 to 5 at San Juan, Puerto Rico, with Governors from forty-five states, commonwealths and territories attending.

At its closing session the Conference elected Governor J. Caleb Boggs as Chairman for the coming year and the following as the eight other members of the Executive Committee: Governors J. Lindsay Almond, Jr., Virginia; James T. Blair, Jr., Missouri; Harold W. Handley, Indiana; David L. Lawrence, Pennsylvania; Herschel C. Loveless, Iowa; Nelson A. Rockefeller, New York; Grant Sawyer, Nevada; and Robert E. Smylie, Idaho.

At its first business session the Conference had adopted revised Articles of Organization, an outstanding feature of which provided for election of the Chairman by the entire Conference. Heretofore the Chairman was selected by the Executive Committee. As before, the entire new Executive Committee was elected by the full Conference.

An innovation at this annual meeting was the opening of what previously had been closed executive business sessions to press and public. Thus for the first time Governors' Conference resolutions were discussed and voted upon in open meeting.

Of fifteen resolutions adopted, one urged the President and Congress to agree on a program to provide sufficient funds to meet the federal highway fiscal crisis and directed the Conference Executive Committee to be ready to join them in discussions leading to solution.

Another resolution, emphasizing among other factors that safety devices and improvements in automobile design and equipment assist in reducing the severity of accidents, called for creation of a Governors' Conference Committee on Roads and Highway Safety to keep relevant problems under scrutiny.

The Conference approved a report by its Committee on Residence Requirements for Pub-

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LEGISLATIVE SESSIONS

California -- The 1959 California legislature appropriated more than \$2.2 billion for state operations, construction and subvention to local governments in the year ahead. This is almost \$226 million more than was appropriated for similar purposes in the previous fiscal period.

To balance spending the legislature enacted new or increased taxes expected to raise more than \$180 million in additional revenue in fiscal 1959-60, and more than \$200 million the following year. Revision of the personal income tax structure will raise \$60 million in 1959-60 and \$71 million annually thereafter. Increases in bank and corporation taxes and a tax of 3 cents per pack on cigarettes are expected to increase annual income from each of those two sources by \$60 million. Another \$10 million annually is anticipated from increased taxes on horse race betting, \$8 million from higher inheritance and gift taxes, \$4 million from raising the tax on beer from 2 to 4 cents a gallon, and \$5 million from moving the payment deadline on insurance company taxes and making the tax self assessing. The earlier insurance tax date was expected also to bring in \$55 million of additional revenue in fiscal 1958-59, just ended, offsetting most of its anticipated deficit.

The legislature settled a north-south deadlock over water development that had prevented appropriations for water construction projects in 1957 and 1958. The legislature approved a master blueprint, reaching to 2020 A. D., to transfer water from California's water-rich North to the water-short South, at a cost estimated between \$11 and \$13 billion. Also approved was a \$1.75 billion bond issue, subject to voter approval in 1960, for the first phase of construction under the long-range program. A \$172 million state investment fund and future accruals to it from tidelands oil royalties were earmarked for water development, and \$83 million was made available from the general fund to the

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Department of Water Resources for construction right-of-way acquisition and project design.

A record total of \$636 million in aid to school districts accounted for more than one-fourth of general appropriations.

The legislature established a State Consumer Counsel, an Economic Development Agency, a State Planning Office and an office of Coordinator of Atomic Energy Development. New business regulations tightened control over mortgage brokers, savings and loan companies, rental agency fees, installment credit charges, private investigators and industrial loan companies. Trading stamp companies were subjected to regulation and required to redeem stamps in cash as well as merchandise.

The legislature abolished the cross filing system in elections and provided for cancellation of a voter's registration for failure to vote in the previous general election. Constitutional amendments referred to the people would increase Assemblymen's terms from two to four years and raise legislators' salaries from \$500 to \$750 a month.

Health measures enacted directed the Department of Public Health to determine standards of safety in air pollution and the Department of Motor Vehicles to set maximum allowable standards for emission of exhaust fumes from motor vehicles.

Highway legislation included approval of a \$10 billion twenty-year program for state freeway construction and establishment of an absolute speed limit on highways of 65 miles per hour. Insurance companies were required to include in accident liability policies a clause providing for financial protection against injuries caused by uninsured motorists.

Maine -- The Maine legislature convened January 7 and adjourned June 13 after meeting for a record number of days.

It approved general fund appropriations totaling \$110 million. A bond issue of \$3.9 million for capital construction was adopted, subject to ratification by the electorate. The legislature imposed a 3 per cent tax on hotel and motel rooms and revised fees for motor vehicles, house trailers and aircraft.

An advisory committee on the budget was abolished and the powers and duties of the

Department of Finance and Administration were increased. The legislature established an Interdepartmental Board on Mental Retardation and a new bureau of mental health within the Department of Institutional Services. It increased salaries of the Governor, departmental heads and Supreme and Superior Court Judges. Submitted to the electorate was a constitutional amendment for continuity of government in emergency.

The legislature adopted the Interstate Compact on Welfare Services, making Maine the first state to enact it.

About \$26.2 million was appropriated for state aid to public schools. The session provided \$10.9 million for operating costs of state institutions of higher education and an additional \$5.8 million for capital outlay purposes at them.

Jail sentences were made mandatory for second conviction of drunken driving. Highway officials were authorized to establish speed limits up to 70 miles per hour on the interstate system and limitations were imposed for highway billboards.

Health measures extended the occupational disease law coverage to diseases arising from exposure to radioactive materials. Maximum benefits under workmen's compensation were raised, and a minimum wage law was adopted.

Among other measures the legislature passed a motor boat licensing and regulation act, provided for jurisdiction over federal lands, and provided for possible extension of state jurisdiction over off-shore waters. Uniform laws adopted include the Gift to Minors and the Fiduciary Securities Acts.

Maryland -- The Maryland legislature adopted a record \$450 million current operating budget consisting of about \$205 million from the general fund, \$95 million from federal funds, the remainder from special funds. The comparable total for fiscal 1959 was \$400 million, of which \$178 million and \$69 million respectively were appropriated from general and federal funds. No new taxes were imposed.

Major appropriations included \$119 million for highways, \$26 million more than the previous year; \$132 million for education, up \$11 million over 1959; and \$45 million for health, hospitals and mental hygiene, an increase of \$5 million. The legislature authorized \$14.1 million for new construction under Maryland's capital improvements budget. The rate of state property tax which supports the bonds for this program was raised from 13.42 to 14.75 cents per \$100 of assessable property. The legislature provided for a five-man tax court and a separate Department of Assessments and Taxation, and abolished the three man tax commission. Another measure provided for a constitutional referendum to permit emergency short term borrowing to meet authorized appropriations.

The Planning Commission was replaced by a single planning director and an advisory board, all serving at the Governor's pleasure. Measures were referred to the voters to limit reconsideration by new legislatures of measures vetoed after previous legislatures

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have adjourned and providing for succession to the office of Governor in event of emergency. Health and welfare measures included provision for a sixteen member coordinating commission on problems of the aging.

Among highway enactments the legislature established a point system for traffic violators and chemical tests for intoxication. A three member State Roads Commission was replaced by a seven man board, chaired by the Director of Highways.

In other action the session established a State Department of Economic Development, created a twelve man advisory commission for it and authorized a Development Credit Corporation to extend loans to business and industry. It ratified a compact providing for a bi-state Commission with Virginia to administer and conserve the fisheries of the Potomac River and authorized Maryland to join the Interstate Oil Compact. A metropolitan area compact was approved to provide for regulation of transit facilities in the Washington, D. C. area. Virginia has enacted the compact, and congressional approval for participation by the District of Columbia is pending.

Vermont -- The Vermont legislature, which convened January 7, completed its 1959 business June 11. Instead of adjourning, however, the legislature recessed until January 12, 1960. In the session next year it will consider additional appropriations which may be needed, highway matters and bills to carry out recommendations of a "little Hoover" commission.

Total general fund appropriations voted by the legislature amounted to \$53.7 million for the next biennium. Other appropriations included \$32.5 million for highways and \$5.1 million for the University of Vermont. A new 3 per cent tax on rooms and meals at hotels, motels and tourist homes was adopted, and the tax on cigarettes was raised from 5 to 7 cents per pack.

Legislation was enacted providing for emergency interim succession for state and local officials. Other related measures permit the legislature to meet in a place other than the capitol city and permit state offices to be located elsewhere in emergency.

The legislature authorized special aid for construction of school buildings for retarded children. The State Department of Education was authorized to accept funds made available under the National Defense Education Act.

Increased assistance grants were provided under the four categorical relief programs. Provision was made for nursing care and hospitalization service for persons receiving Old Age Assistance, Aid to the Blind and Aid to the Totally and Permanently Disabled. An Interdepartmental Council on Mental Health was established, and the Interstate Compact on Mental Health was ratified.

Workmen's compensation benefits for some injuries were increased, as were ben-

efits for total disability and death. The legislature raised unemployment compensation benefits and lengthened the maximum period of payments to thirty-nine weeks during periods of high unemployment.

In other action the legislature authorized revocation of driver licenses for out-of-state convictions, provided for implied consent for chemical tests for intoxication, and approved a \$3 million highway bond issue. It enacted a comprehensive motor boat act, provided for the state's participation in the Interstate Commission on the Lake Champlain Basin and directed the Water Conservation Board to undertake a special study of surface and ground water resources. A special commission was established to prepare proposals for constitutional amendments and to present them to the Governor by September, 1960.

New York Special Session -- The New York legislature met in a one-day special session July 1. It was called by Governor Nelson A. Rockefeller to consider proposed legislation relating to harness racing and to permit the Assembly to elect a new Speaker to succeed the late Oswald Heck, Speaker for twenty-two years.

Assemblyman Joseph F. Carlino was elected Speaker. The legislature replaced the present one man harness racing commissioner with a three member commission to regulate the harness race tracks in the state. The new law also made changes with respect to state participation in the financing of track improvements.

Utah Special Session -- A two day special session of the Utah legislature adjourned May 29, ten weeks after the regular session ended. Principal reason for the call was to provide funds for the State Insurance Department, which had been separated from the State Department of Business Regulations at the regular session. The legislature appropriated \$100,000 to the department for the 1959-61 biennium.

Among eight other enactments, the legislature provided for a privilege tax on businesses located on federal property and authorized the State Treasurer to purchase long-term United States Government bonds from the University of Utah to free funds for the school's medical center. School districts were authorized to use bond money to improve school property.

Wisconsin Recess -- The Wisconsin legislature recessed July 25 until November 3, when it will reconvene to consider some sixty bills held over and to give further consideration to state fiscal problems. By autumn a tax study committee will have made its recommendations regarding proposals to revise the tax system. The 1959 regular session has been one of the longest in Wisconsin. Only twice before have more bills been introduced than this year's total of 1,643.



The Governors at San Juan -- on the lawn outside the San Juan Intercontinental Hotel, where the sessions of the Fifty-first Annual Meeting of the Governors' Conference were held.

GOVERNORS CONFERENCE (Continued from page 1)

lic Assistance and proposed measures to Congress and the legislatures to implement its major recommendations. Congress was asked to amend the Social Security Act so that all four federally-aided categories of public assistance will have a uniform one-year ceiling on residence requirements; legislatures were urged to ratify an interstate compact providing that persons moving from one party state to another shall not be denied some form of aid, if needed, regardless of residence requirements otherwise existing.

The Governors urged that the Army National Guard be maintained at a strength of not less than 400,000 and the Air National Guard at not less than 75,000.

A broad program for improved civil defense was recommended.

Noting that management and labor appeared stalemated in the steel strike, the Conference urged the steel industry and the steel union to continue negotiations to arrive at a speedy settlement and recommended that the federal government "do everything appropriate in assisting them to find such a solution."

It was resolved that a representative group of the Conference should visit Latin American nations within the next year. The Governors also authorized the Executive Committee to consult with the State Department and, with its approval, invite heads of various republics and other officials in the Soviet Union recently visited by the members of the Governors' Conference to come to the United States and observe the operation of government here. As the resolution pointed

out, this would be in line with the Conference's interest in inviting political leaders from different parts of the world to observe the workings of our government.

Among other resolutions the Conference urged establishment of a permanent Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations for purposes specified in legislation now before Congress; commended Congress for supporting the National Science Foundation program to accelerate meteorological research; and urged Conference members to consider state legislation and administrative action to permit appropriate investment in securities of the Inter-American Development Bank.

Addresses to the Conference included presentations by Governor Luis Munoz Marin of Puerto Rico, the Host Governor; Governor LeRoy Collins of Florida, as Chairman of the Governors' Conference; Douglas Dillon, United States Under Secretary of State; Galo Plaza, Former President of Ecuador; and Arthur S. Flemming, U. S. Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare. Nine Governors who had recently returned from a tour of the Soviet Union reported their observations. Another speaker, at an off-the-record briefing session, was Allen W. Dulles, Director of the Central Intelligence Agency.

Among subjects extensively discussed by the Governors were tax and revenue problems. A special panel dealt with regional cooperation in higher education. Professor William G. Carleton of the University of Florida and Dr. George C. S. Benson, President of Claremont Men's College, California, joined in a debate on the states and the nation -- the issues of federalism.

CORRECTING THE RECORD

The Summer Issue of State Government, in reporting "Action by the Legislatures: 1959," recorded enactment in New Mexico of a bill basing state income tax payments on the amounts shown taxable on federal income tax returns. The measure was in fact vetoed by Governor John Burroughs. The review also reported the placing of a revised Youth Commission in the Department of Education. This commission was effectively eliminated by an appropriation of \$1 in the general appropriation act.

Elsewhere the same account of legislation erroneously reported that South Dakota's legislature adopted a reapportionment measure. Instead, a constitutional amendment providing for reapportionment was placed on the ballot of the 1960 general election for approval of the electorate.

EDUCATION

Hawaii Joins Education Compact -- Hawaii has become the thirteenth state to ratify the Western Regional Education Compact. Other signatory states are Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington and Wyoming.

Regional Education -- Board and staff members of the Southern Regional Education Board, the Western Interstate Commission on Higher Education and the New England Board for Higher Education attended a three day conference on regional education at White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia, July 5 through 7. Participants reviewed the programs conducted by the three agencies and exchanged ideas regarding future activities. Attention was called to differences among the three regional groups as well as to elements in structure and purpose which they have in common. At the final session Arthur S. Fleming, United States Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare, urged that regional agencies cooperate with the U. S. Office of Education in formulation of national educational goals and in gathering and reporting information and data.

MENTAL RETARDATION

New Kansas Institution -- The buildings and grounds of a Veterans Administration hospital at Winter, Kansas, have been taken over by the state for the establishment of a third institution for the mentally retarded -- the Kansas Neurological Institute. It will be primarily a children's institution but with some older patients in residence. The new institution will make possible reduction of waiting lists and relieve overcrowding at the two other state hospitals for the mentally retarded. The plan of the Division of Insti-

tutional Management, which will direct the new hospital, calls for the best treatment methods available and continual research into the causes of mental retardation. The hospital also will provide specialized training to physicians, nurses, teachers, psychologists, social workers and others working in the field of mental retardation.

MENTAL HEALTH COMPACT

North Carolina and Oklahoma have adopted the Interstate Compact on Mental Health, bringing the total of party states to twenty-one. North Carolina's entry became effective July 1 and Oklahoma's July 16. In Oklahoma the Director of the Department of Mental Health was appointed ex officio compact administrator.

HIGHWAYS

Highway Rights-of-Way -- A number of legislatures in 1959 have enacted measures dealing with procedures in acquiring rights-of-way for highways. An Indiana law authorized the State Highway Department to acquire by purchase or condemnation the fee simple title in land held by any city, town or public corporation. In Iowa the legislature gave the Highway Commission authority to rent property acquired for highway purposes but not immediately needed. The Maine Legislative Research Committee was authorized to study procedures relating to determination of damages caused by the taking of land for highway purposes. Montana legislation authorized the Highway Commission to exchange land no longer needed for highway purposes for other real property. A Nevada measure authorized sale of unneeded land to the previous landowner rather than at auction. Comparable legislation was approved in Minnesota. The New Mexico legislature authorized the state to take possession of property acquired for highway construction at the beginning of condemnation proceedings. It also provided for protection of the property owner's interests by requiring an adequate bond prior to vesting of title and a quick judicial determination of total just compensation due the property owner. A North Dakota law relieved counties from all right-of-way expenses for the state highway system.

Electronic Surveying -- The first full scale test of electronic highway surveying has been completed by the Maryland State Roads Commission. Using a special device that measures distances between points by means of high speed microwaves, highway engineers reported that over a nine month period they doubled productivity and improved accuracy. The project was a cooperative effort with the United States Bureau of Public Roads.

Road Building Experiment -- Governor David L. Lawrence of Pennsylvania has approved a

bill authorizing use of road building material made from coal for experimental paving. The measure directs the State Highway Department to pay for constructing the experimental strips out of funds available for highway purposes. The act notes that developing new uses for coal would aid the economy of depressed areas of the state.

Record Wyoming Highway Construction -- Wyoming has announced it will award \$200 million in contracts for improvement and construction of 2,000 miles of roads over the next five years. Cost of the five-year program is more than the total spent for highway construction in Wyoming during the 42 years since passage of the first federal aid highway act in 1916. The construction program includes mileage on the various federal aid highway systems -- interstate, primary, secondary and urban, on state routes not receiving federal aid, and on state-county and county farm-to-market roads. Not included are projects in national forests and national parks, which are under the direction of the United States Bureau of Roads.

TRAFFIC CONTROL, SAFETY

Economic Costs of Accidents -- Illinois recently began a statewide survey of the economic costs of motor vehicle accidents in the state. The survey will develop information concerning costs both to motorists and non-motorists. Cooperating in the project are the Illinois Division of Highways and the United States Bureau of Public Roads. The study will be based on interviews with operators of about 8,000 Illinois motor vehicles involved in accidents during 1958. The interviews will be supplemented by a questionnaire mailed to 14,000 operators selected from the 1958 registration files to determine total accident experience of Illinois motorists. It is hoped that information gained through the study will be of value in public education and of particular use to engineers in road design and to enforcement authorities in traffic regulation.

Massachusetts Turnpike Rules -- The Massachusetts Turnpike Authority has announced special regulations on operation of tandem trailers. All parts of such units must be approved by the authority, and drivers must be registered with it. The units may not exceed 98 feet in length or 127,400 pounds in gross weight. Other regulations prescribe minimum and maximum speeds and require special public liability and property damage insurance.

New York Thruway Regulations -- The New York Thruway has announced regulations governing the operation of double bottom units. Such units, comprising two trailers pulled by one tractor, have been operated on the thruway by six concerns on an experimental basis since

February. As a result of satisfactory experience during this period, the thruway now will grant permits to all trucking concerns to operate such units. Special weight, speed and safety regulations have been adopted to cover this type of operation. Drivers of double units must have a record of conviction-free and accident-free operation for the past five years. Since the operation of double bottom units is not permitted on ordinary state highways, the thruway has established eight special points along the road at which they may be assembled or disassembled.

TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

The Massachusetts legislature established a Mass Transportation Commission. It will prepare plans for coordination of mass transportation facilities in the Greater Boston area and give consideration to policies concerning such transportation in other sections of the state. The commission will comprise the heads of six state agencies, serving ex officio, and five other persons appointed by the Governor.

DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

The Rhode Island Business Development Corporation, a state agency, has received a loan of \$313,750 from the Federal Small Business Administration -- the first such loan it has made to a state development corporation. The money will finance half of the loans made by the state agency to five small Rhode Island businesses for expansion and modernization.

LABOR DECISIONS

The California State Supreme Court in two separate decisions has held that county "right to work" ordinances are an invalid invasion of state jurisdiction and has established a new ruling on organizational picketing in the state. The court's six justices unanimously ruled that local "right to work" ordinances are invalid under the state labor code. A four to one ruling, reversing former decisions, declared the state labor code makes union picketing of any firm illegal where a majority of employees do not want to become union members.

TAXES

Withholding Laws -- Enactment of general income withholding laws by the North Carolina and Oklahoma legislatures raises to six the number of states that have adopted such measures in 1959. The other four are Massachusetts, New York, South Carolina and Utah.

In North Carolina the law, effective January 1, 1960, will be computed on the basis of tables prepared by the Revenue Commissioner. It provides for declarations of

estimated tax by both individuals and corporations. Individuals must file a declaration if they receive net taxable income not subject to withholding which can reasonably be expected to equal or exceed \$200 for the taxable year. Corporations are subject to declaration requirements when income less credits can reasonably be expected to exceed \$10,000.

The Oklahoma law requires employers to withhold from employees the equivalent of 5 per cent of the amounts withheld from wages for federal income tax purposes. If an employee is not subject to federal withholding the employer is directed to withhold 1 per cent of the total wages paid to the employee. Under the statute employers were to begin withholding July 1, but since the bill contained no emergency clause it will become effective ninety days after adjournment of the legislature, still in session at this time.

Record Revenues -- Government revenues in the Virgin Islands during the fiscal year ended June 30 reached a new peak of \$5.2 million -- as compared with \$1.5 million in 1952 and \$2.9 million in 1956. Major revenue sources include an island income tax which produced more than \$3 million last year; sales and business taxes, \$886,166; and an import tax which produced \$280,000. The population of the Islands is about 30,000.

ADMINISTRATION

Summer Training Program -- Idaho has instituted a summer training course in state government for two political science students, one from each of the state's publicly supported four-year schools of higher learning. Initiated by Governor Robert E. Smylie, the program is intended to give students interested in government careers an opportunity to observe and work for state government. The students are paid \$300 a month. Each will spend the first week in an orientation course at the Governor's office. Three and a half weeks will be in state agencies co-operating in the program -- public assistance, public health and employment security. A final week will be devoted to evaluation, again in the Governor's office.

Public Employee Salaries -- The Minnesota Civil Service Department, reporting on use of cost-of-living salary adjustments for public employees among the states, indicates that four states have such adjustments -- Kansas, Minnesota, Ohio and Wisconsin. A fifth state, New Jersey, has no formal provisions for adjustment, but bases salaries on cost-of-living indices.

Administrative Reorganization -- Governor Mark O. Hatfield of Oregon has been authorized by the 1959 legislature to propose sweeping reorganization of state administrative agencies at the next regular legis-

lative session, in 1961. Each house of the legislature would have forty-five days to consider and accept or reject the reorganization plan in full; the act bars the legislature from making any alterations in the proposal.

Fund Transfer -- Governor Buford Ellington of Tennessee has announced the transfer of about \$10 million from surplus funds to capital outlay to finance highway construction and other state programs. The 1957 legislature authorized the State Funding Board to request such an allocation from unappropriated funds in lieu of issuing bonds. The capital outlay was originally to be financed by bonds. Half of the fund will be spent for highway construction and the remainder will be divided among mental health, corrections and other programs.

STATE INVESTMENT FUND

New Mexico has begun a four and a half year program of investing one-quarter of the state's permanent fund in blue chip stocks and bonds of private corporations.

Following purchase of \$250,000 in corporation stock early in June, the State Investment Council announced it would continue to buy stocks at regular intervals at a rate of almost \$1.1 million a month until December 31, 1963. The purchase plan is based on the expectation that by the end of 1963 the permanent fund will have reached \$236 million, of which one-quarter, or \$59 million, may be invested in corporation securities under legislation approved by the voters in 1958.

The Investment Council's policy provides that private stocks and bonds will be purchased only from corporations considered to be leaders in their particular fields. Common stock is expected to account for 90 per cent of the purchases, preferred stock for 4 per cent and corporate bonds for 6 per cent. The council is composed of five state officials -- the Governor, State Treasurer and Land Commissioner, all elective, and the State Finance Director and State Investment Officer, both appointive; and four public members named by the Governor.

The permanent fund is based on rents and royalties from state lands and is dedicated to the benefit of schools and state institutions. Only the income the fund produces, not the fund itself, may be spent. Royalties from soaring oil and gas production on state lands have very greatly expanded the fund in recent years. Fifteen years ago it amounted to \$22.5 million; in March, 1959, it stood at \$155 million. With the fund growing at a rate of between \$15 and \$18 million annually, it is expected to reach \$500 million in ten to fifteen years.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION

Bridge Construction -- Governor Harold W. Handley of Indiana and Governor Albert B.

Chandler of Kentucky have signed agreements for joint construction by the two states of three additional bridges across the Ohio River. Construction is subject to federal approval, and the federal government will share in the costs. In the case of one bridge the federal share may be 90 per cent, since the facility may serve as part of the interstate highway system. Cost of the other two will be born 50 per cent by the federal government and 25 per cent by each state. Under previous agreements the two states also are sharing in the costs of constructing two bridges at Louisville.

Methods of Cooperation -- The Council of State Governments has published a report, Patterns of Intergovernmental Cooperation, which summarizes the development and use of methods by which the states cooperate among themselves and with the federal government in administering public programs. The brochure describes the role of Congress in this area and details techniques of cooperation used by the states and the federal government. The report was prepared at the request of the Joint Congressional Committee on Atomic Energy for use in connection with hearings on federal-state relations in atomic energy control, held May 20-22 in Washington, D. C. The publication is available from the Council at 1313 East 60th Street, Chicago 37, Illinois, at \$1.50.

REGIONAL MEETINGS OF ATTORNEYS GENERAL

Midwest -- The Midwestern Regional Conference of Attorneys General met August 2-4 at Lake Okeboji, Iowa. Attorney General Norman A. Erbe of Iowa, chairman of the midwest group, was host to the conference. Representatives from twelve midwest states participated in discussions on such topics as federal-state relations in the field of highways and high-

way construction, federal taxation of state employees, and the National Guard. One session was devoted to discussion of the operation and organization of the offices of Attorneys General. John D. Randall, President Nominee of the American Bar Association, and Carl Conway, President of the Iowa Bar Association, addressed the group at the annual conference dinner.

Western -- The chief legal officers of nine of the thirteen western states, including Hawaii, met June 28-30 in Salt Lake City, Utah, for the 1959 Conference of Western Attorneys General. Justice E. R. Callister, Attorney General of Utah until his elevation to the State Supreme Court just prior to the conference, and his successor, Attorney General Walter L. Budge, acted as joint hosts. Participants discussed relationships of the Attorney General with other state departments and agencies, opinions of the Attorney General, responsibilities for criminal law enforcement, and relationships with local enforcement agencies. Jurisdiction over federal lands and the problems of a new state were other topics on the agenda. The conference by resolution reiterated an earlier request for federal legislation recognizing the supremacy of state law in establishing property rights involving the appropriation, diversion, use or storage of surface and underground water, and binding the federal government and its licensees to observe the laws of the several states in undertaking water development projects. The conference expressed concern over abuse of the use of the writ of habeas corpus and supported the Committee on Habeas Corpus of the National Association of Attorneys General in its efforts with the Federal Judicial Conference of the United States Department of Justice to agree on corrective legislation that might be enacted by Congress.

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